

leader to get these three nominations confirmed. Two are under the category of the Department of Defense, and the third is Energy. Nevertheless, the Energy nominee works carefully with the Committee on Armed Services, which makes up 60 percent of the Department of Energy's budget. Together with my colleague, Senator LEVIN, we have worked very hard, and this is probably one of the shortest periods in which we have been able to completely go through the advice and consent process very carefully, meticulously, but in a very timely fashion. I will have further remarks about these nominations, but the Department is very much in need of these key personnel, particularly the Under Secretary of the Army, a former member of Congress.

I thank the leader for his cooperation in insisting that we get these nominations done in a timely manner, and I thank the staff. There is a lot of staff work that went into this effort.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 345 until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 27. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and that the Senate then conduct a period for the transaction of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. I further ask that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 2271, the PATRIOT Act amendments bill, as under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today the Senate will adjourn for the Presidents Day recess. When we reconvene on Monday, February 27, we will resume consideration of the PATRIOT Act amendments bill, and under the agreement reached this week, we will have a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, and a vote on passage at 10 a.m. the following day, on Wednesday. The vote on Tuesday will be the first vote of the week.

I thank Senator SALAZAR for today's reading of George Washington's Farewell Address. This tradition has been long-standing. It began in 1892 and became an annual event in the Senate beginning in 1893. Ever since that point in time, we celebrate Washington's birthday with the reading of the 7,641-word address, and the address has been made available to each of our colleagues. I have had the opportunity to read that 7,641-word address. It means a

lot to be able to share those words which have been so meaningful and such a tremendous tradition for this body and our heritage and, speaking very directly to the future as well, the tradition that we will continue to pass on and respect.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment following the remarks of my distinguished colleague from Virginia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Virginia.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NOMINATIONS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I again thank the distinguished majority leader. He made reference to the George Washington Farewell Address. I remember 25 years ago, a quarter of a century ago, I gave the address and I was awakened on that day to 25 inches of snow. The only people who came to the Congress that day were the Presiding Officer, a clerk, and myself to deliver that address. I remember I walked from my then-residence some 2 miles in the snow. There was a farmer's march here, and they were all in a tent camp, and a tractor drove me up the hill the final 3 or 4 blocks. It was one of the few moments of any fame in my life. I was picked by The New York Times as the "Man of the Week" for forging through the storm to give that very important address. Since then, it has all been downhill for me.

I wish to address the Senate with regard to these nominations for the Department of Defense. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a brief biography of each of these distinguished Americans who have stepped forward to take on these responsibilities.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

JAMES I. FINLEY

Jim has over 30 years of multi-national business leadership and management experience. Programs span air, land, sea and space for the DoD, all services and DARPA, and include the FAA Automatic Surface Detection Radar systems and the NASA Space Shuttle Program. Systems and subsystems experience includes mission analysis, design, development and deployment of weapon delivery, flight control, navigation, information management, C4ISR, battle space management, chem/bio defense systems. His education includes a Masters of Business Administration, MBA, and Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering, BSEE.

With a background that includes marketing, finance, program management, engineering and manufacturing, he brings a broad experience base of technology including international technology transfer, outsourcing, product development, multi-plant operations management, lean manufacturing implementation, demand flow technology

programs, six sigma/black belt systems, information technology systems, purchasing, logistics, facilities, security, product support and total quality management.

His leadership and strategic planning abilities have led many companies, including large and small operations, to achieve double-digit financial growth. Jim has also participated in many acquisitions and divestitures providing business analysis including strategic fit, organizational alignment, marketing assessments, project evaluations and manufacturing audits.

Jim has achieved significant operational recognition and success through progressive, increasing management responsibilities at General Electric, Singer, Lear Siegler, United Technologies and General Dynamics, where he was a Corporate Officer, President of Information Systems and Chair of the Business Development Council. In 2002, Jim formed his own consulting company, The Finley Group, LLC, that provides business assistance and advice for all facets of the business cycle including start-up, growth, acquisition and divestiture.

He resides in Ghanhassen, Minnesota, and enjoys golf, cycling, fishing, reading and volunteer's work.

PETE GEREN

Pete Geren joined the Department of Defense in September of 2001 to serve as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense with responsibilities in the areas of inter-agency initiatives, legislative affairs and special projects.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense, Geren was an attorney and businessman in Fort Worth, Texas.

From 1989 until his retirement in 1997, Geren was a member of the U.S. Congress, representing the Twelfth Congressional District of Texas for four terms. He served on the Armed Services, Science & Technology and the Public Works and Transportation Committees during his tenure in the Congress.

Geren received his BA degree from the University of Texas in 1974 and his JD from University of Texas Law School in 1978. He and his wife, Beckie, have three daughters, Tracy, Annie and Mary.

THOMAS PAUL D'AGOSTINO

Mr. Thomas Paul D'Agostino is the Assistant Deputy Administrator for Program Integration and leads the Office of Defense Programs at the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration, NNSA. Mr. D'Agostino directs the Stockpile Stewardship Program, SSP, which is responsible for maintaining the safety, security, and reliability of the Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. The NNSA's nuclear weapons complex includes three national research laboratories, the Nevada Test Site, and four production plants.

Defense Programs oversees the SSP, which employs over 30,000 people around the country. This approximately \$5.2 billion program encompasses operations associated with manufacturing, maintaining, refurbishing, and dismantling the nuclear weapons stockpile. Defense Programs also provides oversight and direction of the research, development, and engineering support to maintain the safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile in the absence of underground testing, and assures the capability for maintaining the readiness to test and develop new warheads, if required.

In other previous assignments, Mr. D'Agostino served as the Deputy Director for the Nuclear Weapons Research, Development, and Simulation Program where he directed the formulation of the programs and